

Subject: [Patrin] Police get new powers to evict travellers
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Ananova:

Police get new powers to evict travellers

Police are to be given tougher powers to evict gypsies and travellers from unauthorised encampments.

The Home Office says the "radical overhaul" of policy on the camps aims to tackle public concern about nuisance and disorder.

Eviction powers will come into effect where councils have only provided for temporary, transit and emergency stopping sites.

Home Office minister John Denham says Gypsy Site Refurbishment Programme reflects the Government's view that the use of stronger enforcement powers and adequate site provision must be linked.

He said: "Taken together, this approach signifies the Government's determination to provide a viable framework within which local agencies, in particular local authorities and the police, can respond to unauthorised camping in a way which recognises the needs and concerns of both the settled and traveller communities."

The proposals include providing funding for temporary, transit and emergency stopping place sites for travellers.

Money will also be made available to help refurbish existing local authority-authorised sites.

Details of the scheme are currently being finalised and full details are expected in the autumn.

It is expected to offer guidance on implementing effective local strategies with responsibilities on local authorities and police.

The document will also stress the need for behaviour and respect for law to be the same as in other areas of the community as well as regard for public health, waste disposal and the conduct of business.

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